



# West Valley View

*The community newspaper of Avondale, Buckeye, Goodyear, Litchfield Park & Tolleson, AZ*  
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Friday, September 21, 2007

## State board delays decision on I-10 funds

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The Arizona State Transportation Board has delayed for 30 days making a decision on proposed funding to help widen Interstate 10 through the West Valley.

The seven-member board spent considerable time today discussing whether to provide \$7 million to help pay for speeding up the widening project before tabling the matter, said Matt Burdick, spokesman for the Arizona Department of Transportation.

The money would go to pay interest charges in issuing bonds earlier than planned for the widening project, which would widen I-10 to five lanes in each direction between Dysart and Sarival roads. That stretch of I-10 has two lanes in each direction.

ADOT hadn't planned on beginning the widening project until 2011, but officials in some West Valley cities have sought to speed up the project by covering about \$3 million worth of interest charges on issuing construction bonds so that the work could begin early next year.

The State Transportation Board decided it needs to seek an opinion from the Arizona Attorney General's Office before proceeding further, Burdick said.

Assuming the State Transportation Board approves the funding at its October meeting, the three cities that have been discussing taking part in the accelerated widening plan still would need to approve an intergovernmental agreement with ADOT and the Maricopa Association of Governments, the regional transportation planning agency. The three cities involved in the proposal are Avondale, Goodyear and Litchfield Park.

ADOT can't move forward on putting the project out to bid until that agreement is completed, Burdick.

Assuming that occurs soon after the State Transportation Board next meets on Oct. 19, that would push the beginning of construction to early next year, Burdick said.

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